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Docket No.: 826.1750

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Katsuhito FUJIMOTO, et al.

Serial No. 09/956,933

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No. 2467

Filed: September 20, 2001

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHOD GENERATING A BINARY IMAGE
FROM A MULTILEVEL IMAGE

RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This comes in response to the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers dated 10/19/2001, which requires substitute drawings in English since some of the drawings (Figures 2 and 14) contain characters in Japanese.

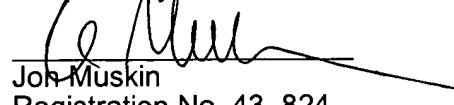
The Applicant respectfully traverses this requirement, for the following reasons. The present invention is concerned with an image processing apparatus. Figures 2 and 14 of the Application illustrate images in Japanese printed on a slip. Figures 2 and 14 illustrate images to be processed, and are not considered to be text in Japanese. Further, since the invention is an image processing apparatus, the actual meaning of these characters is not material to aid one's understanding of the invention.

Therefore, the Applicant respectfully requests that in view of the above, the Figures containing Japanese characters be accepted as filed.

Further, please note that the Notice to File Corrected Application Papers is dated 10/19/2001, with a response due on 12/19/2001. However, this was not received by the undersigned until December 3, 2001 (presumably due to the anthrax situation). A Petition to Restart Previously Set Period For Reply Due to Late Receipt was filed on December 5, 2001. Assuming this Petition is granted, no fees are required. Otherwise, please charge our Deposit Account is indicated below.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Response, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,


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Dated: December 27, 2001



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING/RECEIPT DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
09/956,933	09/21/2001	Katsuhito Fujimoto	826.1750

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CONFIRMATION NO. 2467

FORMALITIES LETTER



OC00000006923266

Date Mailed: 10/19/2001

NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED APPLICATION PAPERS

Filing Date Granted

This application has been accorded an Application Number and Filing Date. The application, however, is informal since it does not comply with the regulations for the reason(s) indicated below. Applicant is given **TWO MONTHS** from the date of this Notice within which to correct the informalities indicated below. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The required item(s) identified below must be timely submitted to avoid abandonment:

- Substitute drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.84 because:
 - drawing figures contain text that is not in English (including, for example, a flow chart that was originally not in English that has been marked up to include the English text) see 37 CFR 1.84(p)(2) and 37 CFR 1.52(d)(1);

*A copy of this notice **MUST** be returned with the reply.*

S. Sohail

Customer Service Center
Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202
PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE